



Docket No. 18733/00040

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application of:

Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO and Yasushi
WATANABE

For:

METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A HOLLOW
RACK SHAFT

Confirmation No.:

7306

U.S. Serial No.:

09/803,560

Filed:

March 9, 2001

Group Art Unit:

3726

Examiner:

Percy W. Echols

RECEIVED
FEB 13 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner

for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT**, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

February 4, 2003

Date of Deposit

Brian E. Harris

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Signature

February 4, 2003

Date of Signature

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated November 8, 2002 which provides for a response period ending February 8, 2003.

Amendments to the claims are presented herein by presenting a complete set of pending claims, as amended, in clean form. Also, an Appendix entitled "Version With